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THE CANADA SERIES

This series is designed ultimately to embrace the whole of the older worth-while literature concerning Canada—from the reports of Cartier and Champlain down to the very end of exploration which is still so recent — whether that literature be geographical, historical, or belletristic, provided it contains such matter as is of interest to every Canadian.

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THE CANADA SERIES

The selection of titles for the series, and the order in which they are to appear is entrusted to a selection committee composed of the following men who have volunteered their services for the purpose:

A. G. Doughty, D. Litt., Deputy Minister of Dominion Archives, Ottawa.

G. M. Wrong, M. A., F. R. S. C., Professor Emeritus of the Department of History, University of Toronto.

W. F. Waugh, M. A., F. R. S. C., Head of the Department of History, McGill University, Montreal.

The general editor is Frederick Philip Grove.

Four volumes have been planned for the first year, two to appear in the fall of 1930, the next two in the spring of 1931. In later years the rate of publication will be increased as circumstances warrant.

The first two titles selected are as follows:

THE CANADA SERIES

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In 1865 there appeared in London, England, one of the most striking and vivid books of travel through western Canada: THE NORTH-WEST PASSAGE BY LAND by Viscount Milton and Dr. W. B. Cheadle. It went through a not inconsiderable number of editions, for it was a delightful piece of writing, full of stirring incident and humorous situations. Even today, it drives home to us how recent the spread of civilisation is in the West where a party of explorers could, as late as 1862, undertake to winter with no more provision made for subsistence than the roaming buffalo afforded. This book was based on the Journal kept from day to day by Dr. Cheadle.

The Journal itself is extant, in the possession of W. W. Cheadle, Esq., of Torquay, England, eldest son of the explorer; a copy exists in the Public Archives of the Dominion of Canada; and this present print, the first edition of the Journal, authorized and copyrighted, is published under the supervision of Dr. A. G. Doughty, Deputy Minister of Dominion Archives.

DR. CHEADLE'S JOURNAL OF A
TRIP ACROSS CANADA, 1862-63
*With introduction and notes by Gustave Lanctot,
Docteur-ès-Lettres, (Paris, France).*

*By the author of Lady Julia Mandeville
with introduction and notes by
Lawrence J. Burpee.*

Price

2.00

THE CANADA SERIES

Frances Brooke, the author of this book, whose maiden name had been Frances Moore, of Stubton, Lincolnshire, was the wife of the first clergyman of the Church of England in the city of Quebec after its capture from the French. The book is, therefore, the first of Canadian novels, written within the five years between 1763 and 1768; it appeared in London, England, in 1769.

The novel is written as a series of letters which give a peculiarly vivid picture of Quebec society after the conquest. To characterize the style, we subjoin two short extracts taken at random:

"You were right, my little Rivers; I like your friend, Colonel Willmot, vastly better for his aquiline nose; I never yet saw one in the face of a fool.——"

THE CANADA SERIES

"I am very fond of him (Rivers) though he never makes love to me, in which circumstance he is very singular: our friendship is quite platonic, at least on his side, for I am not quite so sure on the other. I remember one day in Summer we were walking tête-à-tête in the road to Cape Rouge, when he wanted me to strike into a beautiful thicket: "Positively, Rivers," said I, "I will not venture with you into that wood". "Are you afraid of *me*, Bell?" "No, but extremely of myself."

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by
V. B. Rhodenizer, Ph. D.

A HANDBOOK OF CANADIAN LITERATURE

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V. B. Rhodenizer, Ph. D.

This brief account of what Canadian writers have done to-date is designed to fill a double purpose; it is to give the student to whom the subject is new reliable and authentic information; and it is to interest the general public in the currents and movements of literature in the Canada of the past and present.

The Author, Vernon Blair Rhodenizer, Ph. D., professor of English and Literature in Acadia University, is peculiarly fitted for the task of giving such a survey of Canadian literature for he has been a lecturer on the subject for years and even given a radio course on it in university extension work.

The subject is treated in a popular manner, readily understandable by anyone; all technicalities are avoided; the style is clear, trenchant, and convincing; yet the work testifies to uncompromising scholarship. It is published to fill a real need: the need for an independent and judicial critical evaluation of the work of the authors discussed. Incidentally, literary events have been carefully fitted into the historical back-ground: for only thus could they reveal themselves in their true significance. True appreciation of literary art is sufficiently rare in Canada to make this volume especially welcome for those growing up to an ever increasing national heritage.

THE SALT OF THE EARTH

by

R. W. Armstrong.

Price

1.50

An illuminating and searching analysis of the rural situation in Canada has long been needed. This book argues from a study of human nature and psychological principles, applying laws derived from them to typical rural communities both east and west.

Take an example. Between 1901 and 1921, the rural population of Canada decreased from 62.4 to 48 in every hundred—a percentage loss of 14.4 incurred in the face of the fact that the west was being settled during those decades.

The author argues that such a development cannot be explained exclusively by pointing to economic causes, important as they are; instead he points to, and analyses, certain states of mind or “complexes” which, he asserts, are more important than any economic condition can ever be.

Having analysed the situation, Mr. Armstrong proceeds to search for remedies; for, being an optimist, he is convinced that much can be done.

Anyone interested in the welfare of the country, whether he be teacher or preacher, farmer or city man, cannot but be interested in this book which, so far, is unique, at least in Canada.

THE SALT OF THE EARTH

by

R. W. Armstrong.

Edited by
Nathaniel A. Benson.

MODERN CANADIAN POETRY

Edited by

Nathaniel A. Benson.

This volume is in no way an anthology; nor is it meant as a manifesto issued by a so-called group. It simply contains a collection of poems by 20 living poets who have certain things in common to which they wished to give a joint expression. There is no wild free verse in this volume; no classicistic verbalism. Yet it is the work of young men and women — not one of whom is over 35 years old. That is a promising sign.

Poise and careful workmanship distinguish all of these young poets whose names are here appended: Edgar McInnis, Norman Hainsworth, Delacour Beamish, Robert Finch, Constance Davies Woodrow, Wilfrid Eggleston, Adah Reid, Joseph Easton McDougall, Audrey Alexander Brown, Franklin Burton, Dorothy Livesay, Harry Chandler Elliott, Dorothy Roberts Leisner, Henry Noyes, Dilys Bennett, Charles Bruce, Noreen Master, Robert William Cumberland, Anne Sutherland, and Nathaniel A. Benson.

The one standard by which the poets in this volume were measured was the creation of approximately two hundred lines of what might actually be called poetry; and the book lays claim to be a forecast of at least a considerable fraction of the names which, in Canadian poetry, will count during the next thirty years.

THREE PLAYS FOR PATRIOTS

by
Nathaniel A. Benson.

Price

2.00

Three plays — two of them concerned with imaginatively recast Canadian history. Not much of the sort is available in Canada; and for that reason alone, if for no other, this volume should be a rare gift. But it is so for many reasons. Mr. Benson, a young poet of exceptional talents, shows himself endowed with the ability of putting before us living men and women — people who *live*, apart from the fact that we know them to have influenced the history of this country; and he places them in situations which inevitably work up to a dramatic climax, and that not an external but a spiritual one. Isaac Brock, f.i., stands before us, intensely human — not the mere man-ikin of our history books, but a man like you and myself, though apotheosized by the fact that Canada's destiny works through him. The history of any country is largely the history of its great men; hero-worship is, therefore, a healthy form of patriotism; and any man who places before us such a figure as Benson does in *THE PATHS OF GLORY* places love of country on a new and securer basis, for the real wealth of a country consists in its great spiritual traditions.

THREE PLAYS FOR PATRIOTS

by

Nathaniel A. Benson.

by
William R. Bird.

PRIVATE TIMOTHY FERGUS CLANCY

by

William R. Bird.

The war as the setting for comedy — here is something new in war-books. We see the horror, the appalling carnage, the nerve-racking danger; yet we laugh at the antics of a human being who dominates the scene; he is Irish, of course. Whenever a risky piece of work is to be done, his superiors pick on him to do it. Whenever he succeeds in carrying out a difficult task, someone else gets the glory and the reward. Occasionally he funks; but when he does, he does not get away with it. He is far from being a coward; in his way he is a hero, intensely human, and cursed with the worst of luck. When a whole squad, sent into No man's Land to reconnoitre is as good as lost, a sergeant tells him of his promotion; under the responsibility thrust upon him, he extricates the squad; to find that the promotion was faked — he remains what he is.

Most war-books aim at presenting the realities or the imaginary glories of war. This book shows a strongly individualised character reacting to those realities and seeming glories. You cannot help loving that character even while you perhaps despise him.

THE MAN CHILD
by
Grace Blackburn.

Price

2.00

Grace Blackburn's novel, published at last posthumously, tells a story as old as life itself — the undying, ever new and sublime story of the love of a mother for her son. The author has eliminated from it all that is inessential; and the result is an overwhelming tragedy, simple as life itself and as poignant in its simplicity. It is tragic because it is true; and it is beautiful because of that utter truth and sincerity.

Emma Hart and her only son Jack — whose father died before he was born — live and laugh and weep as mothers and sons have done since the days of Eden, till the war breaks out and the boy goes to his fate, leaving his mother behind, a lonely figure. In the simple, straightforward, and yet compelling unfolding of the tale lies its chief charm.

One feels that the author was compelled by the fulness of a pure heart to write clearly and gloriously, and the result is a story which reads like the unadorned record of actual events given by an eye-witness. **THE MAN CHILD** is a human document which, once read, will not so easily be forgotten.

THE MAN CHILD

by

Grace Blackburn.

by
Douglas Carey.

THE RAVEN'S FEATHERS

by

Douglas Carey.

Mother Haggerty, gypsy queen and psychic expert, has for her familiar a raven. Richard Parkinson, owner of Moatlands Park, has provoked her animosity by trying to secure her conviction on charges of malignant occultism. The "Raven's Feathers" are her symbols to indicate the steps of her curse against the House of Parkinson.

The investigations of Dr. Crawford, of the Psychic Research Club, establish the fact that Haggerty combines her skill as a distiller of obscure poisons with her knowledge of natural forces. The fulfilment of her prophecy inspires Parkinson with a strange belief in her powers. Afterwards her chief instrument is fear, aided by her supposed death and resurrection.

Crawford is baffled through attributing her crimes to influence rather than to personal contact. The mystery of her "appearances", and the real import of her occult mechanisms, is not revealed to him until after he, with the assistance of Dr. Vyvyan allows Evelyn Parkinson to be used as a decoy for the final ensnaring of Haggerty.

Romance, mystery, and a veneer of witchcraft, are the salient features of THE RAVEN'S FEATHERS.

THE TWO DECANTERS

by

Duncan Clark.

Price

2.00

Dr. Clark, as an old man, met with an accident which he knew to be fatal. In times gone by a charge of murder had been brought against him; and the matter weighed upon his mind.

His wife, in England just then, heard a garbled account of what had happened in her husband's youth. The exact circumstances surrounding the mystery were unknown even to her; she found it trying not to be able to set insidious rumours right. So she wrote, asking her husband to tell her the whole truth at last.

Dr. Clark received his wife's request just after the accident. Refusing all anaesthetics and analgesics, he at once began dictating the true account of that old murder mystery which, as the reader will see, no one could clear up but he. In this he was actuated by the desire that no slur might be cast on his children and grandchildren because of what happened in a Canadian village on the Ottawa river forty-odd years ago.

Since the account thus written makes an appealing story, tense with passion and guilt, it is published here. Names given in the book can easily be translated into the actual ones by those familiar with the locality.

THE TWO DECANTERS

by

Duncan Clark.

by
Magnus Pyke.

"GO WEST, YOUNG MAN, GO WEST"

by

Magnus Pyke.

Is the West still the farmer's paradise? Is it full of jobs for the budding agriculturist?

A young Englishman comes to Canada to farm. There is nothing else he wants to do. Two decades ago he would have found plenty of unappropriated land — plenty of jobs to choose from.

He is industrious, modest, likable, and willing to learn. For two years, he works in summer as a farm-hand in Ontario, in winter he attends an agricultural college. Then, with a hundred dollars laid by, he goes West, striking for the wilds of British Columbia — not recklessly even now; for he has letters of introduction to poultry farmers on the coast.

As the days go by, his funds dwindle; at last, with starvation staring him in the face, he surrenders and calls on people he has known in England and who now live at Vancouver. In a couple of days he finds himself installed as junior in a bank.

Promotion is years away. His life is lonely. He seeks and finds a friend; that friend turns out to be a swindler

What next? What but a cablegram home, for funds to return to England?

Is there a lesson contained in this book?

"ENGLISH BLOODS"

by

Roger Vardon.

Price

2.00

This book, in a way, is the Ontario counterpart of the volume entitled "Go West, Young Man, Go West". It deals with the experiences of a young English "remittance man" sent to Ontario to learn how to farm in Canada. These experiences are seen transformed by the lapse of time; and what may have been terrible to live through makes the author laugh, looking back upon it; and we laugh with him.

Englishmen who tried to establish themselves in Canada by letting young countrymen of theirs do all the hard work imposed upon the settler by pioneer conditions, and allowing them to pay for the privilege at the rate of \$500 per annum, were by no means rare at the time; and Captain Martin is typical of them; he is a marvel of the manager's ability, that is, of the ability of letting others do the work while directing it without having the slightest idea of how it should be done.

The book is autobiographical; that is, it contains no highly coloured fiction but deals with realities actually lived through by the author who, in other walks of life, ultimately made his success in Canada and today looks back with a whimsical smile on his early troubles.

"ENGLISH BLOODS"

by

Roger Vardon.

by
Robert Watson.

A BOY OF THE GREAT NORTH-WEST

by

Robert Watson.

A profusely illustrated juvenile by the author of PETER AND ME. From the preface: "I had been reading the experiences of various boys in Eastern Canada, in the Arctic, in the South Pacific, and other places, usually the experiences of a journey occupying only a few weeks, or at most a few months, and I was hit with the idea that if a book could be written about such, surely the adventures of a boy who was born in British Columbia, and had lived and travelled for fourteen years all over the four Western Provinces of Canada, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, would be of interest to other boy's and to grown-ups too."

"I thought surely this would be especially so, when practically the whole life of that boy had been spent outdoors, by forest, stream, trail and campfire, adventuring among Cowboys, Ranchers, Hunters, Trappers, Indians, Fishermen, and Fur Traders, and always in an atmosphere that was fresh and healthy, in the company of plain but clean-minded people, where he had a chance to learn much of animal and native life, many of the little-known stories of the early pioneers and traders, and much of the life out-of-doors and how that life could be lived to its fullest and best."

SPRING BOOKS, 1930.

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Well printed, well bound, with numerous photographs and an excellent map, Mr. Burpee's JUNGLING IN JASPER will have a host of readers.—*Edmonton Journal*.

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